<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend Claims 1-6, 8, and 10, as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (currently amended) A composite image processing apparatus ~~for performing~~ <u>that includes a plurality of image processing units that perform</u> a plurality of image processing units ~~functions~~, including <u>a printer unit that performs</u> a printer function and <u>a scanner unit that performs</u> a scanner function, the apparatus comprising:

an IP address generator[[,]] connected to an <u>Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)</u> router on a network~~, operable to~~ <u>that</u> repeatedly ~~acquire~~ <u>acquires</u> prefix information from the IPv6 router and ~~generate~~ <u>generates</u> a plurality of IP addresses, based on the acquired prefix information, wherein each of the IP addresses is unique to a different one of the plurality of image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~, and wherein a number of the ~~plurality of~~ IP addresses is equal to a number of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~; and

a controller ~~operable to communicate~~ <u>that communicates</u> with ~~a plurality of appliances~~ <u>at least one appliance</u> on the network using the IP addresses generated for the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~ and ~~operate~~ <u>operates</u> each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~ to ~~execute~~ <u>perform</u> communications between each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~ and <u>the</u> at least one <u>appliance</u> ~~of the plurality of appliances~~, and ~~to execute~~ <u>that executes</u> a transfer task for transferring packet data,

wherein the transfer task for transferring packet data is managed by an <u>Operating</u>

<u>System (OS)</u> using buffer areas allocated to the printer <u>unit</u> ~~function~~ and the scanner <u>unit</u>

~~function~~, respectively.

2. (currently amended) The composite image processing apparatus according to

claim 1, wherein the controller ~~executes~~ <u>performs</u> the plurality of image processing functions by

executing, on a time-division basis using a task switchover, <u>a plurality of</u> control task programs

corresponding respectively to the plurality of image processing functions, and performs the

~~communicating~~ <u>communications</u> using the IP addresses generated for the plurality of image

processing ~~functions~~ <u>units</u> based on the control task program, taking as a unit a control task

program corresponding to an image processing function of the plurality of image processing

functions.

3. (currently amended) A control method performed by a composite image

processing apparatus ~~for performing~~ <u>that includes a plurality of image processing units that</u>

<u>perform</u> a plurality of image processing functions, including <u>a printer unit that performs</u> a printer

function and <u>a scanner unit that performs</u> a scanner function, the method comprising:

an IP address generating step of establishing a connection to an <u>Internet Protocol</u>

<u>version 6 (IPv6)</u> router on a network, repeatedly acquiring prefix information from the IPv6

router, and generating a plurality of IP addresses, based on the acquired prefix information,

wherein each of the IP addresses is unique to a different one of the plurality of image processing

<u>units</u> ~~functions~~, and wherein a number ~~of the plurality~~ of IP addresses is equal to a number ~~of the~~

~~plurality~~ of image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~;

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a controlling step of performing a communication with ~~a plurality of appliances~~ at least one appliance on the network using the IP addresses generated for the ~~plurality of~~ image processing units ~~functions~~ and operating each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing units ~~functions~~, so that the controlling step executes communications between each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing units ~~functions~~ and the at least one appliance ~~of the plurality of appliances~~, and

an executing step of executing a transfer task for transferring packet data managed by an Operating System (OS) using buffer areas allocated to the printer unit ~~function~~ and the scanner unit ~~function~~, respectively.

4. (currently amended) The control method ~~of an image processing apparatus~~ according to claim 3, wherein the controlling step involves executing the plurality of image processing functions by executing, on a time-division basis using a task switchover, control task programs corresponding respectively to the plurality of image processing functions, and performing the ~~communication~~ communications using the IP addresses generated for the plurality of image processing functions based on the control task program, taking as a unit a control task program corresponding to ~~an image processing function~~ one of the plurality of image processing functions.

5. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer-executable control program for ~~implementing~~ performing a method of controlling a composite image processing apparatus ~~for performing~~ that includes a plurality of image processing units that perform a plurality of image processing functions, including a printer unit that performs a printer function and a scanner unit that performs a scanner function, the method comprising:

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an IP address generating step of establishing a connection to an <u>Internet Protocol</u> <u>version 6 (IPv6)</u> router on a network, repeatedly acquiring prefix information from the IPv6 router, and generating a plurality of IP addresses, based on the acquired prefix information, wherein each of the IP addresses is unique to a different one of the plurality of image processing functions, and wherein a number of the plurality of IP addresses is equal to a number of the plurality of image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~;

a controlling step of performing a communication with ~~a plurality of appliances~~ <u>at</u> <u>least one appliance</u> on the network using the IP addresses generated for the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~ and operating each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~, so that ~~the controlling step executes~~ communications between each of the ~~plurality of~~ image processing <u>units</u> ~~functions~~ and <u>the</u> at least one <u>appliance are performed in the controlling</u> <u>st</u><u>g</u><u>ep</u> ~~of the plurality of appliances~~, and

an executing step of executing a transfer task for transferring packet data managed by an <u>Operating System (OS)</u> using buffer areas allocated to the printer <u>unit</u> ~~function~~ and the scanner <u>unit</u> ~~function~~, respectively.

6. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium according to claim 5, wherein ~~the controlling step executes~~ the plurality of image processing functions <u>are performed</u> <u>in the controlling step</u> by executing, on a time-division basis using a task switchover, <u>a plurality</u> <u>of</u> control task programs corresponding respectively to the plurality of image processing functions, and performing the ~~communication~~ <u>communications</u> using the IP addresses generated for the plurality of image processing functions based on the control task program, taking as a unit

a control task program corresponding to ~~an image processing function~~ <u>one</u> of the plurality of

image processing functions.

       7. (canceled)

       8. (currently amended) The composite <u>image processing</u> apparatus according to

Claim 1, wherein the IP address generator sends each generated IP address to the router to check

for duplication of the IP address, and, if the IP address is a duplicate, the IP address generator

generates an IP address different from the duplicate IP address based on the prefix information.

       9. (canceled)

       10. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 3, wherein IP address

generating step includes sending each the generated IP address to the router to check for

duplication of the IP address, and, if the IP address is a duplicate, the IP address generating step

includes generating an IP address different from the duplicate IP address based on the prefix

information.